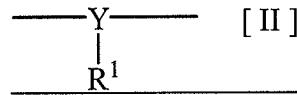
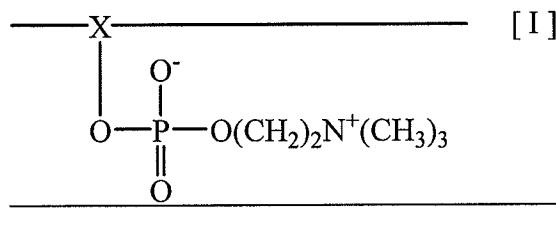


AMENDED CLAIM SET:

1. (withdrawn) An agent for fixing (a) substance(s), comprising a water-soluble polymer used for fixing a desired substance on a substrate, which water-soluble polymer has at least two photoreactive groups in one molecule, said molecule of said water-soluble polymer being electrically neutral as a whole.

2. – 11. (cancelled).

12. (currently amended) A method for fixing (a) substance(s) on a substrate, comprising coating said substrate with an aqueous solution or an aqueous suspension containing said substance(s) to be fixed on said substrate and an agent for fixing (a) substance(s) comprising a water-soluble polymer used for fixing a desired substance on a substrate, which water-soluble polymer has at least two photoreactive groups in one molecule and comprises a unit having the structure represented by the following general formula [I] and a unit having the structure represented by the following general formula [II]:



wherein in general formulae [I] and [II], X and Y independently represent a polymerizable atomic group in the polymerized state, R¹ represents an atomic group having said photoreactive group, not less than 2 units represented by the general formula [I] and not less than 2 units represented by the general formula [II] are contained, and the number of the units represented by the general formula [I] is larger than the number of the units represented by the general formula [II], said molecule of said water-soluble polymer being electrically neutral as a whole, and irradiating said solution or suspension with light.

13. (original) The method according to claim 12, wherein said substance(s) to be fixed on said substrate is(are) selected from the group consisting of polypeptides, nucleic acids, lipids, cells and constituents of the cells.

14. (previously presented) The method according to claim 12, comprising selectively radiating said light so as to pattern the region to which said substance is fixed.

15. (withdrawn) A substrate on which said substance(s) was(were) fixed by the method according to claim 12.

16. (withdrawn) The agent for fixing (a) substance(s) according to claim 1, wherein said water-soluble polymer is a nonionic water-soluble macromolecule having at least 2 photoreactive groups in one molecule.

17. (withdrawn) The agent for fixing (a) substance(s) according to claim 16, wherein said nonionic water-soluble macromolecule is a polyalkylene glycol, polyvinyl macromolecule or a naturally occurring macromolecule.

18. (withdrawn) The agent for fixing (a) substance(s) according to claim 17, wherein said polyalkylene glycol is polyethylene glycol, said polyvinyl macromolecule is poly((meth)acrylamide-photoreactive(meth)acrylamide) copolymer or poly(glycidyl(meth)acrylate-photoreactive(meth)acrylamide) copolymer.

19. (withdrawn) The agent for fixing (a) substance(s) according to claim 18, wherein said nonionic water-soluble macromolecule is polyethylene glycol, poly(acrylamide-photoreactive acrylamide) copolymer or poly(glycidyl methacrylate-photoreactive acrylamide) copolymer.

20. (withdrawn) The agent for fixing (a) substance(s) according to claim 16, wherein said photoreactive group is phenyl azide group.

21. (withdrawn) The agent for fixing (a) substance(s) according to claim 16, wherein said nonionic water-soluble macromolecule has a molecular weight of 500 to 5,000,000.

22. (withdrawn) The agent for fixing (a) substance(s) according to claim 16, wherein said substance(s) to be fixed on said substrate is(are) selected from the group consisting of polypeptides, polysaccharides, nucleic acids, lipids, cells and constituents of the cells.

23. (currently amended) A method for fixing (a) substance(s) on a substrate, comprising coating said substrate with an aqueous solution or an aqueous suspension containing said substance(s) to be fixed on said substrate and an agent for fixing (a) substance(s) comprising a water-soluble polymer used for fixing a desired substance on a substrate, which water-soluble polymer is a nonionic water-soluble macromolecule having at least 2 photoreactive groups in one molecule, said nonionic water-soluble macromolecule being selected from the group consisting of polyalkylene glycols, naturally occurring macromolecules, and polyvinyl macromolecules, wherein said polyvinyl macromolecules are selected from the group consisting of poly((meth)acrylamide-photoreactive(meth)acrylamide) copolymers, poly(glycidyl(meth)acrylate-photoreactive(meth)acrylamide) copolymers, and poly(ethylene glycol mono(meth)acrylate-photoreactive acrylamide) copolymers, said molecule of said water-soluble polymer being electrically neutral as a whole, and irradiating said solution or suspension with light.

24. (original) The method according to claim 23, wherein said substance(s) to be fixed on said substrate is(are) selected from the group consisting of polypeptides, polysaccharides, nucleic acids, lipids and cells and constituents of the cells.

25. (withdrawn) A substrate on which said substance(s) was(were) fixed by the method according to claim 16.

26. (currently amended) A process of producing a substrate on which desired substance(s) are fixed, which method comprises:

coating said substrate with an aqueous solution or an aqueous suspension containing said substance(s) to be fixed on said substrate and an agent for fixing (a) substance(s) comprising a water-soluble polymer used for fixing a desired substance on a substrate, which water-soluble polymer has at least two photoreactive groups in one molecule, said nonionic water-soluble macromolecule being selected from the group consisting of polyalkylene glycols, naturally occurring macromolecules, and polyvinyl macromolecules, wherein said polyvinyl macromolecules are selected from the group consisting of poly((meth)acrylamide-photoreactive(meth)acrylamide) copolymers, poly(glycidyl(meth)acrylate-photoreactive(meth)acrylamide) copolymers, and poly(ethylene glycol mono(meth)acrylate-photoreactive acrylamide) copolymers, said molecule of said water-soluble polymer being electrically neutral as a whole,

and irradiating said solution or suspension with light.

27. (cancelled).

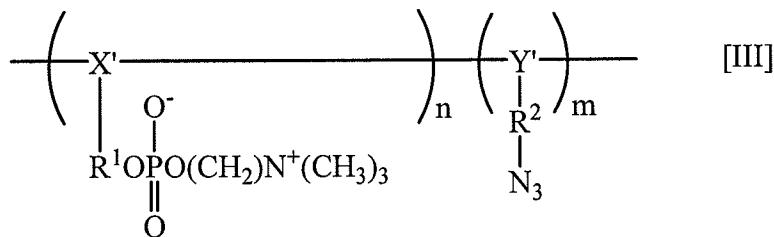
28. (previously presented) The method for fixing (a) substance(s) according to claim 12, wherein said photoreactive group is azide group.

29. (currently amended) The method for fixing (a) substance(s) according to claim 12, ~~The agent for fixing (a) substance(s) according to claim 2 or 3~~, wherein the ratio of the number of said units represented by the general formula [I] to the number of said units represented by the general formula [II] is 100:2 to 100:50.

30. (previously presented) The method for fixing (a) substance(s) according to claim 12, wherein said polymer has a molecular weight of 1000 to 1,000,000.

31. (currently amended) The method for fixing (a) substance(s) according to claim 12 [[27]], wherein said X and Y are derived from vinyl monomers.

32. (previously presented) The method for fixing (a) substance(s) according to claim 12, which is represented by the following general formula [III]:

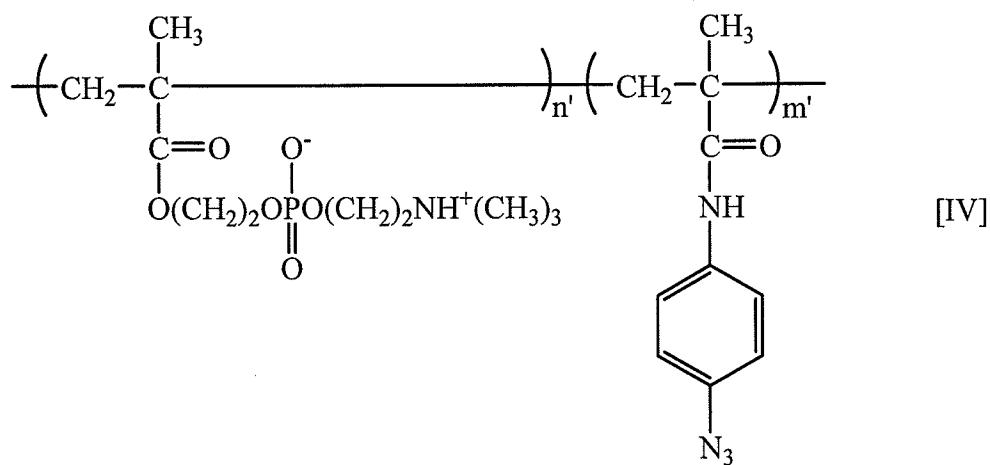


wherein X' and Y' independently represent methacryloxy, methacrylamide, acryloxy, acrylamide, styroloxy or styrylamide group, in the state in which the vinyl moiety thereof is addition-polymerized; R¹ represents a single bond or C₁-C₁₀ alkylene (with the proviso that it may be substituted with 1 or 2 hydroxyl groups), R² represents a single bond or C₁-C₁₀ alkylene (with the proviso that it may be substituted with 1 or 2 hydroxyl groups) or phenylene group (with the proviso that it may be substituted with 1 to 3 substituents selected from C₁-C₄ alkyl and hydroxyl groups); n and m independently represent integers of not less than 2, and n is larger than m; the units containing X' and the units containing Y' are bound in a random order.

33. (previously presented) The method for fixing (a) substance(s) according to claim 32, wherein said unit containing X' is derived from 2-methacryloyloxyethylphosphorylcholine, 2-acryloyloxyethylphosphorylcholine, N-(2-methacrylamide)ethylphosphorylcholine, 4-methacryloyloxybutylphosphorylcholine, 6-methacryloyloxyhexylphosphorylcholine, 10-methacryloyloxydecylphosphorylcholine, ω -methacryloyldioxyethylenephosphorylcholine or 4-styroloxybutylphosphorylcholine.

34. (previously presented) The method for fixing (a) substance(s) according to claim 12 [[27]], wherein said unit represented by the general formula [I] is derived from 2-methacryloyloxyethylphosphorylcholine.

35. (previously presented) The method for fixing (a) substance(s) according to claim 32, which is represented by the following formula [IV]:



wherein n' represents an integer of 50 to 200, m' represents an integer of 5 to 40, and the phosphorylcholine-containing units and the azidephenyl group-containing units are bound in a random order.